

Mexico - Fire Engine Training

September 17 – 21, 2003



On September 17, 2003, Abel Mata, an Engine Operator from BLM's Midway Fire Station, Bakersfield, California, traveled to Toluca, Mexico. He was requested to assisted in training 40 Mexicans on how to use, operate and maintain the newly purchased S&S Fire Apparatus engines from Indiana, USA.

History of this program: In July 1999, under an exchange program between BLM and the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), two Mexican fire managers came to the United States to study BLM's wildland fire engine program. They spent most of their two-week stay in Shoshone, Idaho. Based on the information and knowledge obtained during that exchange, SEMARNAT was interested in purchasing heavy class wildland fire engines. They used BLM specifications for the bidding process, which closed September 9, 2002.

SEMARNAT requested the assistance of Mr. Robert Stroud, supervisor of the BLM Equipment Development Unit, located at NIFC, to provide technical guidance with the specifications and bids. S&S Fire Apparatus from Indiana, USA, was awarded the contract for the development of the 11 engines Mexico purchased.

The engines were built, and delivery started in the fall of 2003.



Students practice hose layout techniques